

1 What is claimed is:

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3 1. A method for forming an adjacent symbol codeword comprising:

4 generating a set of m bits, wherein m is an integer, of a first symbol and a set

5 of m bits of a second symbol from a first set of data during a first clock

6 phase; and

7 generating a set of n bits, wherein n is an integer, of the first symbol and a set

8 of n bits of the second symbol from a second set of data during a second

9 clock phase.

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11 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second set of data is from a memory.

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13 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR) memory.

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15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein both m and n are four bits and constitute a nibble.

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17 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the adjacent symbol codeword comprises an adjacent

18 formation of the first and second symbol.

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20 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising isolating a common mode error across the

21 m and n bits of the first and second symbol.

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24 7. A method for testing a memory comprising:  
25 generating a plurality of check bits to append to data that is forwarded to the  
26 memory;  
27 generating an adjacent symbol codeword based at least in part on data received  
28 from the memory;  
29 decoding the adjacent symbol codeword; and  
30 determining whether an error exists in the memory

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33 8. The method of claim 7 wherein decoding the adjacent symbol codeword comprises  
34 generating a syndrome based at least in part on the adjacent symbol codeword.

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36 9. The method of claim 7 wherein determining whether an error exists in the memory is  
37 based at least in part on the syndrome.

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39 10. The method of claim 9 wherein an error exists based on the syndrome, further  
40 comprising:

41 classifying the error in the received data; and

42 correcting the error in the received data.

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44 11. The method of claim 7 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR)  
45 memory.

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12. The method of claim wherein the syndrome is thirty two bits based on a two hundred eighty eight bit codeword.

13. An apparatus for an Error Correcting Code comprising:

a first logic to generate a plurality of check bits based on a set of data, to append the check bits to the set of data that is to be forwarded to a memory;

a second logic to receive a codeword from the memory and to generate a syndrome based on the codeword, and to detect whether an error exists based on the syndrome;

a third logic to classify the error if it exists; and

a fourth logic to correct the error if it exists.

14. The apparatus of claim 13 is incorporated within a server chipset.

15. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR) memory.

16. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the syndrome is thirty two bits and the codeword is 288 bits.

17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the first logic is an encoder and utilizes the formula:

$$c_i = \sum d_j \times G_{ij} \text{ for } i=0 \text{ to } 31 \text{ and } j= 0 \text{ to } 255,$$

to generate the plurality of check bits.

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71 18. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the second logic is a decoder and the syndrome  
72 is an H matrix that is generated by the formula:

73  $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$  for  $i=0$  to 31 and  $j=0$  to 287,

74 to generate the syndrome.

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76 19. An apparatus to classify an error from a memory comprising:

77 a first logic to generate an H matrix syndrome; and

78 to determine whether an error exists based on the syndrome, if so, to classify an

79 error type of the error.

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81 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the H matrix syndrome is generated by the  
82 formula:

83  $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$  for  $i=0$  to 31 and  $j=0$  to 287.

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85 21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein to classify the error type comprises the first

86 logic to generate an error location vector.

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88 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the error location vector determines whether  
89 the error is correctable:

90 a value of zero in the error location vector indicates the error is uncorrectable; in

91 contrast, a value that is greater than zero in an indicated column of the error location

92 vector indicates the error is correctable.

93 23. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the error type may be either a single device  
94 error or a double device error.

96 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the double device error is either of a  
97 simultaneous error or a sequential error.

98  
99 25. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the single device error is classified based on a  
100 weight of an error value,  $e_0$  and  $e_1$ , and the error location vector is to gate the error  
101 values.

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103  
104 26. A system comprising:

105 a processor, coupled to a memory and a chipset, to generate an operation to  
106 the memory via the chipset; and  
107 the chipset to utilize an Error Correcting Code (ECC) based on an adjacent  
108 symbol codeword that is formed in two clock phases and to determine  
109 whether an error exists in a plurality of data received by the chipset from  
110 the memory, if so, to classify a type of the error based on an H matrix  
111 syndrome.

112  
113 27. The system of claim 26 wherein the memory is  
114 a Double Data Rate (DDR) memory.

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117 28. The system of claim 26 wherein the H matrix syndrome is generated by the formula:

118  $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$  for  $i=0$  to 31 and  $j=0$  to 287.

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121 29. The system of claim 26 wherein the system is a server.